



RECYCLING *News* and Waste Reduction

Fall 2005

www.waukeshacounty.gov/recycling

Phone: 262-896-8300

Recycle Your Magazines and Catalogs



The next time you set out your newspapers to be recycled, be sure to include your catalogs and magazines, too. Contrary to what you might think, you CAN and SHOULD recycle your magazines and catalogs. In fact, by Wisconsin state law, they cannot be thrown into a landfill.

Today, all community recycling programs in the county accept magazines and catalogs for recycling. While it's true

that, years ago, glossy paper was a contaminant in paper recycling, that's no longer accurate. Paper recycling technology has advanced significantly in recent years and markets now exist for all types of paper, including glossy paper. Your old magazines and catalogs can be recycled into everything from newsprint to paper-board boxes and insulation.

Earlier this year, the county and municipalities began participating in **ReMix**, which stands for **Recycling Magazines Is Excellent**. Perhaps you've seen a TV commercial or read an advertisement about ReMix in a popular magazine. ReMix is a campaign to increase

magazine and catalog recycling. The National Recycling Coalition, Time Inc., International Paper and recyclers Recycle America Alliance and FCR sponsor the campaign nationally. Local sponsors are Quad/Graphics and the Wisconsin Be SMART Coalition, a regional public-private partnership that promotes waste reduction, resource conservation and pollution prevention.

For further information about recycling magazines and catalogs, visit the Be SMART (Save Money and Reduce Trash) website at www.besmart.org.

And thanks for recycling!



MORE PAPER

The DNR has done several studies on recycling rates. According to the last study, which counted items in the waste stream from households to landfills, residential recycling rates are good at home. Completed in 2002, the study estimated that 94% of households are recycling in some fashion, and that's fantastic! For example, residents are doing very well at recycling aluminum with 93% recycled.

However, there is room for improvement when it comes to paper! This is probably because some people still think they can't throw glossy paper in their recycle bin. So get the word out – **recycle magazines, catalogs, junk mail, and cardboard**. The paper industry is strong...buyers want all types of clean paper.

For more information on the DNR's recycling studies, visit www.dnr.state.wi.us, under Recycling & Reuse.

Computer Recycling Returns

Residents who want to recycle old computers, monitors, printers, keyboards, scanners, and peripherals again have four locations in the county to take them.



City of Waukesha Recycling Drop-off site

900 Sentry Drive, Waukesha
Hours: Saturday 8am - 4pm
Wednesday 11am - 7pm (April - Thanksgiving)



City of Brookfield Highway Department

19450 Riverview Drive, Brookfield
Hours: Saturday 8am - 5pm
Tuesday & Thursday 1pm - 7pm (May - November)



New Berlin Recycle Center

3711 S. Casper Drive
Hours: Saturday 8am - 4pm
Tuesday & Thursday 10am - 7pm (April 3rd - December 10th)

These sites are for residential computers only. Businesses can call (262) 896-8300 or visit www.waukeshacounty.gov/recycling for more information.

The county reinstituted this program after finding a private contractor to recycle these items through a bid process. Funding is provided through the Orchard Ridge Landfill agreement between Waukesha County and Waste Management.



Ethan Allen School (Only 5 pieces at a time)*

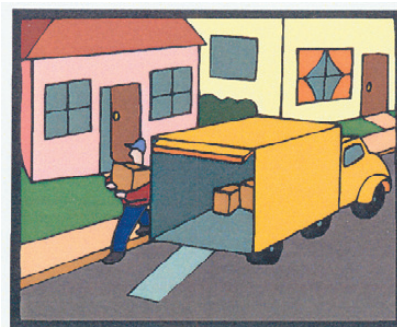
W323 South Boy School Road, Wales
Hours: Monday - Sunday 8am-8pm
Telephone: (262) 646-3341
Please use parking lot in back of building.

* Operated by Wisconsin Corrections

Moving In/Moving Out

The county and the Greater Milwaukee Association of Realtors are cooperating on getting the word out to residents who move into or out of the county that they need to properly dispose of hazardous waste.

Moving companies cannot transport hazardous products. Putting them in the trash or dumping them down the sink may be hazardous to the environment. Use up or give away as many products as possible. Read the label. Solvent-based products such as oil-based paints, stains



and strippers, pesticides and chemicals should be taken to one of the Household Hazardous Waste collection sites in Waukesha, Menomonee Falls or Muskego. For hours of operation and acceptable items, visit the website at www.waukeshacounty.gov/recycling or call 262-896-8300.

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Free Blue Bins Promote Recycling

Having problems fitting all your recyclables in your blue bin? Is your bin cracked and depending on duct tape to hold it together? Contact your municipal office for a free replacement bin or a second bin to hold your additional recyclables.



Peter Mudek replaces his old, broken bin with a new one at the City of Waukesha Engineering Department

In order to encourage more recycling, the county is conducting a free recycling bin program for municipalities in the county recycling program. The idea is to use the blue bins as a means to re-educate residents about recycling and increase participation by not charging residents for a replacement bin or new bin used for recycling. This type of program has been successful elsewhere and has increased recycling tonnage. That benefits taxpayers because participating communities receive an annual recycling dividend from the county.

County recycling staff will work with municipalities and their haulers to complete the distribution in phases over the next year or so as new bins are ordered.

Pewaukee Business Goes Green

Advanced Design Concepts (ADC), an engineering consulting firm in Pewaukee, is just one of the several Waukesha County businesses that had waste evaluations done by the county recycling staff this year. Committed to making decisions that make economic as well as environmental sense, ADC chose to follow through on recommendations from the waste evaluation:

- Distributed labeled recycling bins for paper at every desk in the office.
 - Added large recycling containers in their scanning room to collect different metals for recycling.
 - Contacted sources of unwanted catalogs to reduce incoming junk mail.
 - Began an outdoor compost bin for yard waste and employee lunch scraps.
 - Scheduled a Hometown Energy Checkup by Focus on Energy.
- The Energy Checkup resulted in even more positive changes at ADC when they:
- Purchased a more energy efficient dryer for their injection-molding machine.
 - Installed motion sensitive lights in several locations throughout the building.



Employees at ADC empty lunch-time food scraps into their outdoor compost bin.

- Added a fan to circulate air in the shop.
- Replaced all lights with more energy efficient fixtures and recycled old bulbs.

Find out how reducing waste can save your business money by scheduling a waste evaluation today. Call 896-8300 for more information.

Citizens Encouraged to Participate

Citizens are encouraged to provide input to update the 1997 Waukesha County Development Plan. The plan will identify resources and qualities that county citizens value, and will provide a roadmap for managing future growth and protecting natural resources. Advisory Committee meetings have time set aside for public comment and participation. Agendas are posted at www.waukeshacounty.gov/landandparks under Waukesha County Comprehensive

Development Plan Update. For more information about the planning effort, please contact Dale Shaver, Director of the County's Department of Parks and Land Use at 262-896-8300. Waukesha County, the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, Waukesha County UW-Extension and 28 partnering municipalities are working together on this cooperative comprehensive update.



Attention Leaf Gatherers:

Turn Over a New Leaf!!



This fall, don't bag or burn the multitude of leaves on your lawn. Instead, mulch them:

1. Chop the leaves with a mower, preferably one that has a mulching blade, and let the leaves lay on your lawn. You can buy a mulching blade where mowers are sold.
2. Make two or three passes over your lawn. At first this may seem like it takes too much time, but think of the time saved because you're not raking, bagging, or hauling!

That's it! Two easy steps and you're done. It's better for the environment, better on your pocketbook, and doesn't irritate your neighbors with smoke. Mulching also allows you to reduce your fertilizer costs for the year – leaves contain many of the valuable nutrients found in fertilizers. No gasoline expenses for traveling to a compost site (and no emis-

sions from your car), no raking, and no hauling bags to the end of your driveway. No standing guard over your burn pile, and no purchasing of bags.

For details check out the "Turn Over a New Leaf" video from your local library. The video shows how simple it is to feed your lawn the nutrients it needs and clean up your yard at the same time.

Residents with Time Warner Digital Cable service, can view the video on "Wisconsin on Demand." To access: Tune to Channel 1111 and then select the "Community News" category. The video is also available on the Wisconsin Be Smart website www.besmart.org under "Yard Waste Information". For more information on this program, contact Recycling and Solid Waste at 262-896-8300 or visit www.waukeshacounty.gov/recycling.

Recycle...It's Easy!



Compost Project Celebrates Successful First Year

After its first year of operation, over 1,600 tons of finished compost material is now ready to be used as a topsoil substitute to reclaim the county gravel pit in the Town of Genesee. The compost is the first to be generated from over 6,000 tons of lawn and garden wastes dropped off by 10 local communities since the site opened in September 2004.

In a unique public/private partnership, the county contracted with Johnson Sand & Gravel to complete mining and reclamation work on about 70 acres of county property over the next nine years. The site is planned to be an industrial park in the future. S & R Composting Services is managing the yard waste composting operation. According to Perry Lindquist, County Land Resources Manager overseeing the project, "It takes



about 9-12 months to convert the yard waste into a resource with special management, including periodic turning of the windrows."

The Blue Bin QUIZ

Answers based on County's Recycling Guidelines



- | | | |
|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Magazines and catalogs are recyclable. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 2. Newspapers must be tied with twine or put in brown paper bags. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 3. Garage and garden plastics are recyclable. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 4. Cardboard boxes must be flattened and large ones cut to 2'x3' or 3'x4', depending on your hauler. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 5. Cans and bottles should be put in plastic bags inside the blue bin. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 6. Cereal, cracker & tissue boxes, paper towel tubes, paper egg cartons are now collected for recycling. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 7. Junk mail is recyclable. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

Answers: 1-yes, 2-yes, 3-no, 4-yes, 5-no, 6-yes, 7-yes

Join **Recycle Raccoon** at the MRF Family Open House



Saturday, November 12
10:00 a.m. to Noon
220 S. Prairie Avenue
Waukesha

The "MRF" is Waukesha County's Materials Recycling Facility where household recyclables are sorted and shipped to manufacturers to be made into new products.

- ☎ Tour the facility
- ☎ See samples of recycled items
- ☎ Visit the "Wise Tree of Recycling"
- ☎ Kids receive an "RR" Trading Card



AMERICA
RECYCLES
2005

It All Comes Back To You.

Celebrate **"America Recycles Day"** at the MRF



Recycling Questions and Answers



Q I spend a lot of time separating my recyclables from the trash, but when the truck pulls up at my house, I see the driver throw everything into the same section of the truck. Why should I bother sorting?

A The best way to find out what is actually happening is to go out and ask the driver "Can you explain what you are doing with my recyclables? It looks like you're throwing them in with the trash."

Each of the hauling companies serving our county has different truck designs and pickup procedures. There may be a good explanation for what you are observing. Some trucks have 3 compartments inside: one for trash, one for paper, and one for bottles and cans. If the explanation does not make sense to you, then call the company. Let them know you spoke with the driver and why. Tell them what the driver told you and that you still don't understand the process – can they help clear this up? At no time should drivers be mixing recyclables with trash.



Q Why am I getting a green tag on my recycling bin? I've been recycling for years and suddenly I'm not doing it right. What has happened?

A We understand why you are upset. While the county does not hire the collection company (your municipality contracts for service) we have been getting a lot of calls lately about drivers tagging recycling bins.

County staff, hauling company representatives, and the recycling facility operator met to discuss ways to cut down on contamination. Items that damage equipment and cause safety problems like lawn mower blades and car parts were ending up at the recycling facility. Drivers are to tag and leave an item that needs correction, to help residents recycle properly, and take the rest of the materials. The drivers are still being trained on what they should be tagging and hopefully the issue will be resolved soon. We appreciate the fact that you do recycle, and take the time to prepare materials. If you would be interested in a tour of the recycling facility to better understand how the system works, please attend our Open House on Saturday, November 12, or schedule a group tour by calling our office at 262-896-8300.



Q I didn't think recyclables really had any value until I saw a recent article in the paper about the profits generated by the county recycling facility. Is it true that China is buying these materials? Does plastic have any value?

A The value of many recyclables is at an all-time high, due to international demand. Waukesha County sells recyclables to manufacturers in the U.S. and Canada. In 2002 – three years ago – the average county revenue for recyclables shipped from our MRF was \$36.96 per ton. So far in 2005, the average county revenue was \$57.35 – a 55% increase! Scrap paper is currently the #1 US export by volume, even raising prices on low-grade paper such as cereal boxboard. Huge demand from China is pushing up prices and causing shortage concerns for a number of companies here in the states, particularly for #1 PET plastic (soda & water bottles).

These demands could be met if businesses and other venues recycled more in addition to strong residential programs. Wisconsin businesses and residents that recycle are helping support US manufacturing jobs.



Q I have been seeing people taking the aluminum cans out of my recycling bin before the recycling truck comes by. Is this legal?

A No, it is not legal. Once recyclables are set out at the curb, they become the property of the recycling program. People who take cans out of recycling bins are stealing and may be subject to fines. If you see this happening, get a license plate number and call your local police. Revenues from the sale of recyclables help keep your taxes lower.



Traveling Trunks



The Waukesha County Recycling Office has available four Waste Reduction Traveling Trunks tailored to the needs of pre-K, K-2, 3-5 and 6-8 classrooms. Any teacher, scout leader or home-schooler in Waukesha County can borrow a trunk FREE for a two-week period by calling 262-896-8327, or visiting our website at www.waukeshacounty.gov/recycling

The **Household Recycling Guide** below applies to residents in the 25 communities that participate in the County recycling program: the towns of Brookfield, Delafield, Lisbon, Merton, Oconomowoc, Summit, Waukesha; the villages of Big Bend, Chenequa, Dousman, Eagle, Elm Grove, Hartland, Lac La Belle, Merton, Nashotah, Oconomowoc Lake, Pewaukee, Wales; the cities of Brookfield, Delafield, New Berlin, Oconomowoc, Pewaukee, Waukesha.

Clip and Save

Clip and Save



HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING GUIDE

Waukesha County Department of Parks & Land Use



RECYCLABLE BOTTLES, CANS & JARS

STEEL, TIN & ALUMINUM CANS;
CLEAN FOIL PANS



GLASS BOTTLES & JARS



#1 PLASTIC BOTTLES & JARS

Including Soda & Water Bottles,
Cooking Oil, Dish Detergent &
Shampoo Bottles, Jelly Jars



#2 PLASTIC BOTTLES & JUGS

Including Milk, Water & Juice Jugs;
Laundry Detergent & Fabric
Softener Bottles



INSTRUCTIONS

- **REMOVE AND THROW AWAY LIDS.**
- Place clean, loose containers in bin.
- Labels need not be removed.
- Do not bag items in plastic. **NO PLASTIC BAGS OR SALT BAGS.**



NON-RECYCLABLE ITEMS (Place items in trash)

- Electrical cords, X-mas tree lights
- Window glass, ceramic dishes, light bulbs, drinking glasses
- Plastics coded 3 through 7, toys, Styrofoam
- Deli containers, yogurt or margarine tubs, flower pots or trays
- Motor oil & antifreeze bottles

METAL ITEMS-Clothes hangers, pots & pans, tools, iron pipes

- Place in **SCRAP METAL BIN** at drop off site or take to local scrap metal dealer.

For further information visit www.waukeshacounty.gov/recycling

ALSO SEE INFORMATION ON OTHER SIDE

Residential Recycling Awards

Residents whose recycling bins contained only recyclables (no mistakes) - during a random inspection by county staff – received \$100 each. Award money was provided by the following businesses: FCR (recycling facility operator), John's Disposal Service, Onyx Waste Services, and Waste Management.



November 2004 Winners Left to right: Jo Ann Wilson, Wales; John Rheineck, Village of Merton; Recycle Raccoon; Glen Gay, Town of Brookfield; Vicki Sulsberger, Town of Waukesha; Steve Vangsnes, City of Oconomowoc. Not pictured: Deane & Karen Peterson, City of Delafield.



April 2005 Winners and Sponsors Left to right front row: FCR representative Linda Schalk; Cynthia Kucher, Town of Merton; Jerome Lepak, Village of Big Bend; Back row from left: Ron Jongetjes, John's Disposal; Larry Draves, OnyxWaste; representing Village of Chenequa, Jeff Kante; Alexander Silva, City of Waukesha. Not pictured: Jean Melzer, Chenequa; Mr. & Mrs. John Flanner, City of Brookfield; and a resident of the Village of Eagle.

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HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING GUIDE

Waukesha County Department of Parks & Land Use

RECYCLABLE PAPER

NEWSPAPERS

CORRUGATED CARDBOARD

CEREAL & SNACK BOXES, BEVERAGE CARRIERS

MAGAZINES & CATALOGS

PHONE BOOKS

PAPER EGG CARTONS, PAPER TOWEL ROLLS, TISSUE BOXES, PAPERBACK BOOKS

HOUSEHOLD OFFICE PAPER & SHREDDED PAPER

JUNK MAIL

INSTRUCTIONS

- Put paper items in **PAPER** bag or tie securely with string. Flatten boxes. Place phone books loose on top.
- Flatten and cut corrugated cardboard to 3'x4'. Bundle and place beside bin.

NON-RECYCLABLE PAPER (Place items in trash)

- Paper contaminated by food or grease
- Tissue products, paper napkins, paper towels, cups, and plates
- Waxed paper, including frozen food boxes, paper milk and juice cartons
- Tyvek and other non-tearable materials

For further information visit www.waukeshacounty.gov/recycling

ALSO SEE INFORMATION ON OTHER SIDE

Visit www.waukeshacounty.gov/recycling and
Learn How to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle!



RECYCLING in any language means saving!

For fun, here is how to say, "recycling" in:

Spanish - reciclaje

Italian - riciclaggio

French - recyclage

Department of Parks and Land Use
Office of Recycling and Solid Waste
1320 Pewaukee Road, Waukesha, WI 53188
Fall 2005

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